

San Francisco Estuary Institute



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Mike Madigan, Chair
Bay-Delta Advisory Council
c/o CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street #1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

28 October 1998

Dear Mr. Madigan

Please find enclosed a copy of the Bay Area Watershed Science Approach and its companion How-To manual for studies of historical ecology. These materials have been produced for the Bay Area by the San Francisco Estuary Institute.

I have been encouraged by the CMARP Watersheds Work Group of the CALFED to provide these materials to the BDAC. Since I am not able to attend the upcoming BDAC meeting, I have decided to mail the material directly to you. There is some thinking by the Work Group and other watershed interests that these materials might help inform the BDAC thinking about watersheds.

The Watershed Science Approach is being implemented in the Bay Area at four local watersheds this year, through partnerships with local agencies. And there is an open and ongoing discussion with the environmental regulatory community of the Bay Area to help define science support for watershed management. These discussions are helping to revise the Watershed Science Approach to better meet the needs of watershed managers.

There has been some talk among CMARP members that the Bay Area Watershed Science Approach could be a model for other regions of the Golden Gate watershed or ecosystem. I'm not sure about that. I think there are regions that define themselves in terms of natural and human character, and that within these regions people probably need to develop their own approaches to solving their own environmental problems. But I am sure the Bay Area approach is beginning to work well in the Bay Area.

I hope you find these materials of interest and help.

Sincerely,

Joshua N. Collins, Ph.D.